

GULFPORT REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Request for Proposals
Hotel Development on Mississippi Aquarium Site

The Gulfport Redevelopment Commission, the urban renewal agency of the City of Gulfport, Mississippi (the "GRC") will accept sealed proposals from qualified firms interested in developing and operating a hotel to be located on the Mississippi Aquarium site in Gulfport, Mississippi ("Hotel Site").

Delivery – **One (1) original, five (5) hard copies and two (2) digitally converted copies** of the proposal shall be submitted. All proposals must be submitted to the Gulfport Redevelopment Commission, c/o Procurement Office, Attn: Connie Debenport, CPPB, 1410 24th Avenue, Gulfport, MS 39501, no later than **4:00 o' clock p.m. local time, June 3, 2016**, after which time they will be delivered to the Selection Committee. Any submittal received after the above stated date and time will be returned unopened.

The GRC will jointly establish a selection committee who will evaluate the proposals and make recommendations to the governing authority of the GRC based upon the following set of criteria which is listed in order of importance:

1. The ability, capacity, skill, knowledge, reputation, financial resources and experience and responsiveness of the firm(s) or individual(s) who are proposing to develop, operate and manage the Hotel Site in the manner being proposed, including the hotel brand affiliation, Management Company and a list of primary vendors anticipated to be utilized to provide any additional services, if any.
2. The proposed investment by the developer and lease terms offered.
3. Proposer's business plan and concept.
4. The proposed uses and the potential economic benefit and other enhancements to the City and the Mississippi Aquarium.
5. Any incentives being required by the Proposer in connection with the development.
6. The design and layout being proposed by the Proposer.
7. Documentation of proven successful experience.
8. Familiarity/knowledge of local area.
9. References.

Questions – All questions regarding this Request for Proposals should be directed to Connie Debenport by e-mail: cdebenport@gulfport-ms.gov or facsimile (228) 868-5704 and to Steve Hendrix by e-mail: Steve.Hendrix@butlersnow.com or facsimile (601) 985-4500, *not less than five (5) business days* prior to the proposal due date. All questions must be submitted in writing; telephonic inquiries will not be considered.

The selection committee will review and rate all proposals and will assist the GRC in evaluating the submissions and assessing the most qualified. The GRC retains the ultimate authority in making these determinations. The committee may develop a short list from which interviews will be scheduled and evaluation will be based **ONLY** on the data submitted in response to the request for proposal and such other information as the GRC may deem necessary or appropriate. Upon final selection and a determination made by the GRC's governing authority, negotiations may commence and a written contract may be awarded to the firm whose proposal is determined by the governing authority to be the most qualified.

The successful firm must adhere to the City and GRC's policy concerning non-discrimination without regard to race, creed, color, age, sex, national origin or handicap.

The GRC reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, in whole or in part, and to discontinue contract execution with any party at any time prior to final contract execution. The City and GRC are equal opportunity employers.

Direct contact with any City employee, GRC Commissioners, including the Administration and City Council on the subject of this proposal is strictly forbidden. Violation of this paragraph will result in disqualification of your submission. This is not intended to limit your contact with city employees in the planning or permitting department so long as such inquiries are conducted in the ordinary course of due diligence regarding the Hotel Site and its development.

Publish Two (2) Times in Legal Section: 02/29/2016 and 03/07/2016

Send Invoice and Proof of Publication To: Gulfport Redevelopment Commission
c/o Procurement Office
Attn: Connie Debenport
1410 24th Avenue
Gulfport, MS 39501
Email: cdebenport@gulfport-ms.gov

Send Additional Proof of Publication To: Steven M. Hendrix
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